

Policy

It is the policy Naval Medical Center, Portsmouth to manage all construction, renovation, modernization, and structural repairs in a manner designed to minimize the potential for the spread of infections due to degraded air quality, environmental contamination, or contamination of water.

General Information

A growing body of research has established the potential for construction activities to facilitate the transmission of infectious diseases. In addition, there is clear evidence that chemical used and dust generated during demolition and construction can aggravate allergies.

A systematic approach based on assessment and planning can effectively manage these issues. The overall approach relies on pre-construction assessment, management of HVAC systems, and aggressive use of a variety of barriers.

Procedure

1. The Director of Engineering, Infection Control, and Safety are responsible for evaluating the need for infection control measures for every construction, renovation, modernization, or repair activity requiring the demolition, construction, or penetrating or any wall, ceiling, or floor slab.
2. An Infection Control Assessment Screen (ICAS) must be completed prior to initiation of any work.
3. The log of all ICAS will be maintained by the Infection Control Practitioner.
4. When Temporary Aggressive Infection Control (TAIC) measures are indicated based on the ICAS, the Director of Engineering, Infection Control, and Safety are responsible for determining the specific measures, the areas to which they will be applied, providing education to contractors and employees, and implementing a monitoring program to assure rigorous implementation of the required measures.
5. Barriers and other measures will be based on the Dust Control Plan. If water borne contamination is an identified risk, individual decisions regarding the best method for managing the identified risk will be made by the Infection Control Practitioner.
6. The Director of Engineering, Infection Control, and Safety have the authority to order cessation of activities in areas when the TAIC are not being complied with. Contractors violating the measures may be removed from the job site.

Section: **UTILITY SYSTEMS**

Effective Date: March 2003

Subject: **Infection Control During Construction**

Revised Date: Jan 2012

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7. The TAIC needs on a given project may change over the life of the project. The Director of Engineering, Infection Control, and Safety are responsible for periodically reassessing the appropriateness of the TAIC on each project and making changes as required.

When changes are made, the contractors and staff responsible for implementing and monitoring compliance with the measures will be reoriented. Revised monitoring checklists will be provided as required.

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Infection Control Assessment Screen

Area assessed: _____

Date of Assessment: _____

Initial Assessment: Reassessment:

Individuals Completing Assessment:

Infection Control Risk	Recommended Temporary Aggressive Infection Control Measures						
	Short Term Barriers	Long Term Barriers	Negative Pressure	Walk Off Mats	Restricted Work Hours	HVAC Protection	Restricted Travel Paths
Removal of ceiling							
Demolition of walls							
Penetration of wall/floor							
Removal of ductwork							
Shut down of HVAC							
Removal of debris							
Sheet rock or plaster installation							
Construction in occupied area							
Standing water							
Opening domestic water supply							